

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An initiation assembly for an inflator for a pyrotechnic device, the initiation assembly comprising:

an initiator comprising a center pin disposed to convey an activation signal to trigger ignition of a quantity of ignition material;

a body disposed to encircle at least a portion of the initiator; and

a cover attached to the body through a method selected from the group consisting of snap fitting, vibratory welding, and electromagnetic welding to encircle at least a portion of the initiator, wherein the body is part of a receptacle defined by the initiation assembly for receiving a connector, the receptacle comprising a retainer attached to the body, wherein the receptacle comprises a plurality of splines shaped to mate with at least one rib of the connector such that the connector is engageable with the retainer in at least three orientations, wherein the splines and the rib mesh to prevent rotation of the connector between the orientations.

Claim 2 (original): The initiation assembly of claim 1, wherein the initiator further comprises a header eyelet encircling at least a portion of the center pin and a bridge wire that electrically couples the center pin and the header eyelet together such that passage of the activation signal through the bridge wire ignites the bridge wire to ignite the ignition material.

Claim 3 (original): The initiation assembly of claim 2, wherein the cover is attached to the body to electrically insulate the initiator.

Claim 4 (original): The initiation assembly of claim 1, wherein the body and the cover are formed from polymeric materials and the cover comprises a rim, wherein the rim is ultrasonically welded to the body.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original): The initiation assembly of claim 1, wherein the body is press fit into place to prevent moisture entry into the inflator and to prevent inflation gases from exiting the inflator through a region encircling the body.

Claim 7-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): The initiation assembly of claim 1, wherein ~~the body is part of a receptacle defined by the initiation assembly for receiving a connector such that~~ the connector engages the initiator to enable transmission of the activation signal from the connector to the initiator.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (original): The initiation assembly of claim 9, wherein the receptacle is disposed within a housing of the inflator, wherein the housing is shaped to retain the body, the housing comprising an inside diameter through which the connector is insertable, wherein the connector comprises at least one projection and the housing is disposed to engage the projection when the connector engages the initiator to restrict withdrawal of the connector from the initiator.

Claim 13 (original): The initiation assembly of claim 9, wherein the receptacle comprises a collar shaped to retain the body, the collar comprising an inside diameter disposed to receive the connector, the connector comprising at least one projection, wherein the collar is disposed to engage the projection when the connector engages the initiator to restrict withdrawal of the connector from the initiator.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The initiation assembly of claim 9, wherein ~~the receptacle comprises a retainer attached to the body, wherein~~ the retainer is formed of a polymer and has a generally annular shape, wherein the connector comprises at least one projection and the retainer is disposed to engage the projection when the connector engages the initiator to restrict withdrawal of the connector from the initiator.

Claims 15-31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (currently amended): An inflator for an airbag module for protecting an occupant of a vehicle from impact, the inflator comprising:

a housing;

an initiator retained within the housing, the initiator comprising a quantity of ignition material and a center pin disposed to convey an activation signal to trigger ignition of the ignition material; and

a cover disposed to encircle at least a portion of the initiator through a method selected from the group consisting of snap fitting, vibratory welding, and electromagnetic welding, further comprising a body that is part of a receptacle defined by the initiation assembly for receiving a connector, the receptacle comprising a retainer attached to the body, wherein the receptacle comprises a plurality of splines shaped to mate with at least one rib of the connector such that the connector is engageable with the retainer in at least three orientations, wherein the splines and the rib mesh to prevent rotation of the connector between the orientations.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The inflator of claim 32, ~~further comprising a~~ wherein the body disposed to encircle at least a portion of the initiator, wherein the initiator further comprises a header eyelet encircling at least a portion of the center pin and a bridge wire that electrically couples the center pin and the header eyelet together such that passage of the activation signal through the bridge wire ignites the bridge wire to ignite the ignition material.

Claim 34 (original): The inflator of claim 33, wherein the body and the cover are formed from polymeric materials and the cover comprises a rim, wherein the rim is ultrasonically welded to the body.

Claim 35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (original); The inflator of claim 33, wherein a region encircling the body is sealed to prevent moisture entry into the inflator and inflation gas exit out of the inflator via one of a press fit, an o-ring, and an annular ridge disposed to press into the body.

Claim 37 (canceled)

Claims 38-51 (canceled)

Claim 52 (currently amended): A method for manufacturing an initiation assembly for a pyrotechnic device, the initiation assembly comprising a body, a cover, and an initiator comprising a quantity of ignition material that ignites in response to receipt of an activation signal, the method comprising:

disposing the body to encircle at least a portion of the initiator;

disposing the cover to encircle at least a portion of the initiator; and

attaching the cover to the body through a method selected from the group consisting of snap fitting, vibratory welding, and electromagnetic welding, wherein the body is part of a

receptacle defined by the initiation assembly for receiving a connector, the receptacle comprising a retainer attached to the body, wherein the receptacle comprises a plurality of splines shaped to mate with at least one rib of the connector such that the connector is engageable with the retainer in at least three orientations, wherein the splines and the rib mesh to prevent rotation of the connector between the orientations.

Claim 53 (original): The method of claim 52, wherein the initiator further comprises a header eyelet encircling at least a portion of the center pin and a bridge wire that electrically couples the center pin and the header eyelet together such that passage of the activation signal through the bridge wire ignites the bridge wire to ignite the ignition material, wherein disposing the body to encircle at least a portion of the initiator comprises positioning the body to cover an outer diameter of the header eyelet.

Claim 54 (original): The method of claim 52, wherein the body and the cover are formed from polymeric materials and the cover comprises a rim, wherein attaching the cover to the body comprises ultrasonically welding the rim to the body.

Claims 55-56 (canceled)